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QUERY CONTROL FORM				RTIS USE ONLY	
Application No.	09988651	Prepared by	EWC	Tracking Number	05879292
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JACKET			
a. Serial No.	f. Foreign Priority	k. Print Claim(s)	p. PTO-1449
b. Applicant(s)	g. Disclaimer	l. Print Fig.	q. PTOL-85b
c. Continuing Data	h. Microfiche Appendix	m. Searched Column	r. Abstract
d. PCT	i. Title	n. PTO-270/328	s. Sheets/Figs
e. Domestic Priority	j. Claims Allowed	o. PTO-892	t. Other

SPECIFICATION

a. Page Missing
b. Text Continuity
c. Holes through Data
d. Other Missing Text
e. Illegible Text
f. Duplicate Text
g. Brief Description
h. Sequence Listing
i. Appendix
j. Amendments
k. Other

CLAIMS

a. Claim(s) Missing
b. Improper Dependency
c. Duplicate Numbers
d. Incorrect Numbering
e. Index Disagrees
f. Punctuation
g. Amendments
h. Bracketing
i. Missing Text
j. Duplicate Text
k. Other

MESSAGE

Continuing data on palm sheet is not in specification.
Also, please state relationship of 09/471804 to 09/172263 in specification.

Thank you
EWC

c-i-p

initials

RESPONSE Corrected, see attached

initials

This is a continuation of 09/477,804, filed Dec. 23, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of 09/172,263, filed Oct. 15, 1998. 2/10/04

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

ZOOM LENS SYSTEM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a zoom lens system, and more particularly to a compact yet low-cost zoom lens system used with cameras using an electronic image pickup means such as camcorders, digital cameras, supervisory cameras, portable telephones, personal computers, etc.

To achieve size and weight reductions of a consumer-oriented zoom lens system in this field, a specific zoom lens system has been proposed, which comprises four lens groups, i.e., a positive lens group, a negative lens group, a positive lens group and a positive lens group in order from an object side thereof, as typically disclosed in JP-A's 4-43311 and 4-78806. For zooming, the second negative lens group moves on an optical axis while the first and third lens groups remain fixed. The fourth lens group moves to make correction for a fluctuation in the position of an image plane in association with zooming. A further size reduction is achievable by a specific zoom lens system wherein, as typically disclosed in JP-A's 6-94997 and 6-194572, a third lens group moves from an image plane side to an object side of the system during zooming from a wide-angle end to a telephoto end of the system. Such zoom lens systems have a relatively high zoom ratio of the order of 8 to 12. However, these zoom lens systems are still insufficient for zoom lens systems having a lower zoom ratio while weight is placed on